



## Miscellaneous.

## THE NEW ENGLAND SOUTHERN CONFERENCE.

BY REV. H. C. WESTWOOD, D. D.

This body began its session on the 21st of April, and adjourned on the 29th at 12.10 A. M., the session having been prolonged by the trial of one of the brethren, whose case was referred at an early day to a select number of fifteen. Business was dispatched by Bishop Fowler with such rapidity, and there was so little disposition to indulge in wordy debate, on the part of the Conference, that adjournment could have been had on Monday evening but for the reason indicated above. Wednesday was enjoyed as a holiday, which the Bishop and others improved by running to Boston, and others, yet, by visiting in the neighborhood, while some went to their homes for rest and recreation.

To a remarkable degree brotherly love continued all through the session of the Conference, not a word being said in debate, or — so far as we know — in private, that could wound any heart.

Much interest centered in the affairs of the East Greenwich Academy, and in the trial to which reference has been had. This trial was largely attended by members of the Conference, and the verdict of the committee acquitting the accused brother, by a substantially unanimous vote, was received with much applause. The settlement of the East Greenwich Academy matters on a square and generous basis, was a cause of much satisfaction, while the manly conduct of two of the brethren, who, through the complications connected with the Academy, had become antagonistic to each other, so that one of them felt it to be his duty to prefer charges against the other, won the favor of the entire Conference. In this case, the brother complained of made a frank explanation and apology, whereupon the other, with prompt and generous earnestness, withdrew the charges and seconded the motion for the passage of the brother's character. We predict for the Academy, under the presidency of Dr. Blakeslee, formerly its head, enlarged prosperity and widening success.

The editor of ZION'S HERALD received sincere recognition at the hands of the Conference, in the form of kind and appreciative resolutions suggested by the announcement of his retirement from his chair at the close of the year.

The anniversaries were largely attended, and the representatives of the societies were in full feather. Their addresses before the Conference were above the average of the efforts of these gentlemen. Dr. Butler never did better for the Freedmen, while Dr. Spencer and Dr. Freedman held high the banner for Church Extension and Sunday-schools respectively. Dr. Buel, of the Boston University, captivated the Conference and audience with his bright wit, his hard sense and his eloquent words, as he pleaded for higher education and theological training in the ministry. Bro. Affleck, of Dakota, so fired our Southern hearts that he bore away from us nearly twice as much money as he obtained at the New England Conference for the same cause.

The missionary sermon by Rev. J. H. Allen was worthy of the occasion, and impressed all who heard it. The sermon on Sunday morning by Bishop Fowler, and that in the afternoon by Dr. Butler, were spoken of in terms of highest praise, not only as pulpit efforts, but as meeting the requirements of the true Gospel sermon. Engagements elsewhere, both in the morning and afternoon, took me away from the Academy of Music, where the ordination services were held, so that, greatly to my regret, I could not hear these discourses.

Great numbers of people from the various charges in the Conference were in attendance during the week, all of whom manifested deep interest in the proceedings. Many visiting brethren from different Conferences looked upon us for a season, and cheered us with their presence.

Bishop Fowler's bearing toward the brethren and his good humor in the chair, won upon the Conference more and more, as the days went by, so that, though a stranger — episcopally — to the Conference when he came, he seemed more like an old friend when he left. We think that, without exception, his return will be gladly welcomed. His address to the class applying for ordination to deacon's orders and admission to the Conference was singularly able and especially forcible in its elaboration of the thought that ministers must be *preachers*.

Our entertainment was royal. The homes and hearts of Fall River were thrown wide open, people of all denominations esteeming it a great pleasure to minister to the comfort of the Conference. If Bro. Kimball, the pastor of the church in which the Conference was held, shall give as much satisfaction, when he reaches the episcopal office, in the matter of appointments, as he did in his assignments as the host of the Conference, he will be one of the most popular of Bishops. To his official board we return thanks for the facilities afforded us.

On Saturday afternoon, the elegant edifice of the Central Congregational Church was thrown open for an organ recital complimentary to the Conference, which was greatly enjoyed by many of the members and visitors. To the able pastor of this church, Rev. Dr. Mix, and his accomplished wife, the writer and his wife are indebted for most delightful hospitality throughout the session of a Conference, the pleasant memories whereof will never fade away.

A bar of iron, worth \$5, worked into horse-shoes, is said to be worth \$10.50; made into needles it is worth \$355; made into penknife blades it is worth \$3,285; made into balance springs of watches, it is worth \$250,000. ■

## MAINE CONFERENCE.

Reported by REV. J. LUKE.  
(Concluded.)

FRIDAY.

The 8 o'clock prayer-meeting was conducted by L. H. Bean, assisted by Bishop Walden.

The Bishop took the chair at 9 o'clock, and ordered the call of the roll. Several new ones answered to the call.

Took up the 3d Question: "Who remain on trial?" D. R. Ford and A. E. Parlin were continued on trial.

Took up the 13th Question: "Who are the deacons of the second class?" W. E. More was continued a deacon of the second class.

Took up the 20th Question. A. W. Pottle, presiding elder of Augusta District, made his annual report. Church improvements have been made at East Wilton, Fairfield, Farmington, Stark, Kent's Hill, East Monmouth, North Anson, Wayne, Winslow, North Augusta. Debts have been paid at Waterville and Leeds. The presiding elder recommends more attention to the Sunday-school interests. Bro. Pottle leaves the Augusta District at this session of the Conference, having served it successfully four years.

The preachers on this district all passed in character, and made their reports of collections.

E. T. Adams, presiding elder of Lewiston District, made his first annual report as presiding elder. Church improvements have been made at Gardner, Wesley Church, Bath, Bowdoinham, Mechanic Falls, Brunswick, Lisbon, Auburn and Rumford. Only eleven charges on this district are supplied by Conference preachers. The Poland camp-meeting was reported as a revival camp-meeting. A special revival was reported at Wesley Church, Bath, and also at Beacon St., Bath. A general increase of benevolent collections was reported. At the close of the presiding elder's report, E. S. Stackpole presented a paper expressive of the appreciation of the preachers on the Lewiston District of the faithful and efficient services of the presiding elder, whose presence on the charges has been a constant benediction.

The preachers on the Lewiston District all passed in character.

W. S. Jones, presiding elder of Portland District, made his second annual report, showing general prosperity on the district.

The spiritual interests have been most encouraging. Three new societies have been organized: Long Island, Saco Ferry, and Biddeford Pool.

Church improvements have been made at Long Island, Chestnut St., Hiram, South Berwick, Saco, Congress St., Portland, Cape Porpoise, Cape Elizabeth, and several others.

The report shows that the parsonage at Mary-Lane Ridge was burned on the 18th of the present month, with no insurance. The presiding elder reports that only 25 per cent of the members on the district attend class.

The preachers on the district all passed in character, and reported their benevolent collections, which made an excellent showing.

The Bishop made some remarks on the importance of observing the disciplinary directions relating to taking of Conference committees.

Took up the 2d Question. J. W. Wright, W. R. Barber, M. B. Pratt and E. C. Strodt were admitted on trial. C. E. Strodt was elected to deacon's orders under the missionary rule for work in Utah.

J. P. Roberts was admitted in full connection with the Conference.

The stewards distributed \$2,943.23 among the superannuated preachers and widows. The highest amount paid was \$200, the lowest \$25.

John Gibson was returned supernumerary at his own request. L. P. French, E. K. Colby, and A. Turner were returned superannuated. D. Church was continued supernumerary. E. Martin was returned supernumerary.

The Bishop responded with an earnest address.

The Bishop announced that N. T. Whittaker, of N. E. Southern Conference, was transferred to this Conference.

Benediction by Dr. Day of New York.

Conference convened at 2 P. M. J. Collins opened the devotional exercises by reading Isaiah 12. Prayer was followed by singing, "Come thou fount of every blessing," when the Bishop took the chair and opened the business session.

Resumed Question 10. A. E. Parlin and James Wright were elected to deacon's orders.

The orders of Bradbury Sylvester, an elder of the Sunday School Union, and Dr. Brush the interests of Dakota University.

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The minutes were read. The Bishop made an offering for the benefit of the Conference.

The stews were granted a supernumerary relation, and a resolution of appreciation was passed with great unanimity.

The Bishop announced the transfer of J. W. Bashford to Genesee Conference.

"All hail the power of Jesus' name," was sung with great enthusiasm.

L. H. Luke was chosen railroad secretary for the ensuing year.

G. C. Andrews, T. F. Jones, and S. Allen, secretaries, were appointed a committee to secure a safety vault for our Conference records.

The minutes were read. The Bishop made some very impressive and cheering remarks, and then called on Bro. Wetherbee and R. S. Allen, to the altar, and were addressed by the Bishop.

Dr. Hurlbut represented the interests of the Sunday School Union, and Dr. Brush the interests of Dakota University.

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## CONTENTS.

Original Articles.	
EDITORIAL. Glances and Gleanings.—Troy Conference, — A Little White (poem), — Tunc, — April in Arkansas.—The Silent Testimony of Character in Another Life.	146
The New England Southern Conference, — Proceedings of the Maine and New Hampshire Conferences. OUR BOOK TABLE	147
The Sunday-school.	
Religious Summary, — Reading Notices, — Advertisements.	148
Editorial.	
After Conference, — The Hittite Empire.	
EDITORIAL COMMENT. PERSONAL AND MISCELLANEOUS. New Hampshire Conference.	148
The Conferences.	
East Main Conference Proceedings, — CHURCH REGISTER. Marriages, — Reading Notices, — Business Notices, — Advertisements.	149
The Family.	
Speaking to the Heart. [Editorial]. A Most Important Discovery. — A Significant Question and Remark. — In Memoriam, etc. (poem). — On to Cairo, OUR GIRLS. The Flower in the Stone Wall. THE LITTLE FOLKS. Selected Poems and Prose Articles. — Another Girl. EDUCATIONAL.	150
Obituaries.	
Periodicals and Pamphlets, — Dr. Reed and Dr. Kendig. — Advertisements.	151
The Week.	
Church News and Church Register Notices, Correspondence, etc. — Reading Notices.	152

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE, BOSTON,  
MASS., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

## Lion's Herald.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1887.

## AFTER CONFERENCE.

The six New England Conferences have held their annual sessions, and nearly a thousand ministers have been distributed among the churches; two-thirds of them probably returning to their former charge to fill out uncompleted terms. In arranging a work on so large a scale, and one of so delicate a character, involving both pastors and churches and occasioning in-avoidable sacrifices of both feeling and money, no little thought, anxiety and prayer have been awakened. The wonder is that so little friction, comparatively, attends this work. The dissatisfied ministers and churches can be counted upon one pair of hands, with some fingers to spare. Some of these disappointments are unavoidable. Possibly at times there may seem to be an arbitrariness in the final decision as to the choice of a church, or the disposition of a minister, but, ordinarily, if all the elements of the case were known, the ultimate decision will be found to be the best arrangement that could be made under the circumstances. Whatever may have been the habit of the older Bishops, in the earlier days of the church — when our membership was small and the number of preachers limited, when the superintendent, himself, personally knew the men and the condition of the charges, and when he could safely follow his godly judgment in stationing, annually, the itinerants — in these later days, of large membership, in varied communities, with men of character and intelligence in the churches, with bodies of mature and well-trained preachers, no wise superintendent, who has the good of the cause at heart, and who really desires the highest spiritual profit of all the charges, will simply throw himself back upon the authority entrusted to his hands, and decide arbitrarily these serious, as well as delicate questions. If he does, he will soon be impressed with the wisdom of a general superintendency which permits an annual change in the bodies over which he presides, even if, happily, before he leaves the scene of his experiment, he is not obliged to make numerous changes in his appointments. Our Bishops, even if not required by the law of the church, give deference to their cabinets, a ready hearing to proper representatives of the churches, and seek, with a spirit of self-sacrificing earnestness, to be just and generous to their brethren in the ministry and to all the charges coming under their administration.

The apparently harsh incidents in the distribution of the work arise from various causes difficult to control. An able and mature pastor may have become so familiar in the leading churches of the Conference, that, although his powers are still at their prime, his services are not in demand. The churches, as in all denominations, seek a younger man, and gifts that are fresher and more novel. The appointing power, both for the sake of the churches and of the man, cannot force him upon a people against their protestations. He must take smaller appointments, or, what is often much better, be transferred to other portions of the work. Sometimes age and personal peculiarities render it difficult to give a really able and valuable man such a field of labor as his talents merit. This is to be said, however, that no other Christian denomination has so many facilities for continuing the services of its ministry into mature, and even advanced, years as ours. There is nothing more pitiful than to see the straits, in

churches where the ministry is grimly termed "settled," of men over fifty to secure new pulpits after they have, not always voluntarily, resigned those of earlier pastorates.

But one of the occasions of dissatisfaction among the churches arises out of this very effort to supply fields of service to all the preachers within the fellowship of the Conference. Members of our churches learn of the success and ability of a preacher in another Conference. They become greatly interested to secure his ministrations. They may, or may not, be wise in their choice. It is the wish of the appointing power to gratify every reasonable request. But here comes the serious difficulty. All the older Conferences are full, having as many preachers as charges on their rolls. Indeed, in later years we have been forced to crowd aside men of fine physical health and good abilities in the pressure for new gifts. Every man introduced from without, unless a corresponding transfer can be made, crowds some one of the honored laborers prematurely aside. If the church, as does the English Wesleyan, continued a living salary for those excused from labor, the severity of the act, in the instance of these supernumerary ministers, would be greatly mitigated; but ceasing to preach often means the entire loss of income, and no provision except that of an eleemosynary character, through the Preachers' Aid Society — a matter of \$250 a year or less — is at hand for them. This is the one weak and suffering point in our system. Some pronounced connectional movement should be made at once to secure, at least, a bare living for the families of these devoted men, who have given their lives to the church. There are men in all the Conferences, who, for some substantial reason, have become unacceptable as pastors to the churches, but they have heretofore rendered many and valuable years of labor. They have no facilities for entering into trade. They are, sometimes, pressed, year after year, upon reluctant and poor charges, simply to secure for them a living. The church could well afford to make them emeritus pastors, with profit to them and herself, if she had a certain small, but regular, retiring pension for them.

There are some embarrassments that the church ought no longer to endure. She snatches away her pastors in the midst of their unquestioned usefulness — men of peculiar adaptations to special work, men who draw a congregation that had not been previously reached, men who do not simply crowd their houses by sensational preaching, but bring their hearers into the church and build them up in holy living. Such men as these, just at the hour of their most marked success, are removed, and the godly promise they have secured is disappointed by a failure in adaptation on the part of a successor. This weak place in our polity is made more evident in the changeable populations of our cities, but is often an occasion of serious loss in other portions of the work. The remedy for this is easily found. It need not in any wise peril our admirable plan of ministerial exchange. We have already hundreds of ministers with permanent positions, returning to the itinerant work from time to time, without embarrassment. There should be no fixed term; five years would be a serious embarrassment; but, after one year, to the providence of God and the godly judgment of the cabinet and the pastor's peers, may be safely left the decision of the further length of his term. This one important addition to our system of ministerial distribution, is the next real step in our evangelical progress, to be earnestly sought for at the hands of our governing body.

## THE HITTITE EMPIRE.

In our last issue we referred to the late discoveries in reference to the people bearing the Scripture designation of Hittites. In this paper we notice the incidental confirmation of these fresh revelations of a long-forgotten race.

From side-lights which have come to us by recent inscriptions derived from Egypt, and more especially from the clay tablets from Chaldea and Babylonia, we are now able to follow the Hittites through scores of campaigns, and to realize the results of those engagements during a thousand years. The inscribed stones discovered at the places named are all in the same kind of characters, hieroglyphics and ideographs; but in one respect, unlike all other ancient writing, the letters are raised on the surface, not cut in as they were in Egypt and Chaldea, the background being cut away, the letters or words being left standing. Being thus unprotected, they are in most instances much worn and decayed, but they are bold and carved in very hard stone. The Hittites have no place in classic history; hence skeptics have called them myths; but God is removing the cloud from them, and by what we now know, historians can reconstruct much of the records of from three to four thousand years ago. There is an Egyptian tablet

in the Louvre, Paris, dating from the first Pharaoh of the twelfth dynasty, Amen-em-hat I, B. C. 2300, which describes both towns and places belonging to the Hittites, destroyed on the borders of Egypt; and Mariette Bey says that one of the early Egyptian dynasties was Hittite. About the middle of the seventeenth century B. C., Thothmes I of the 18th dynasty made war with the Hittites and their allies, which was carried on for nearly five hundred years by successive Pharaohs. Thothmes III made his power felt throughout the then known world. The Hittite king of Kadesh gathered a confederate army against the Egyptian army, and they fought in the valley of Megiddo. The confederate were beaten, and Pharaoh has left a record of the great spoil of gold and treasures, and 232 chariots and horses which he took from the Hittites. Another campaign was directed against Carchemish, the Hittite capital, and two others against Kadesh, their great stronghold; but Pharaoh destroyed the city and cut down all the trees. That Pharaoh carried on nine campaigns against the Hittites, storming their cities more than once, but the Hittite resistance was not broken, only checked and drawn back. Successive Pharaohs had to keep up sanguinary wars, and the Egyptian inscriptions speak of their enemies with respect, and of their gods with reverence. A treaty of peace followed, made between Rameses I of Egypt, and Sapiel, the Hittite king, which secured a long reign of peace.

Just two hundred years afterwards, Pharaoh Seti I came to the throne, and he went with a vast army to drive back his enemies; he took the Hittites by surprise and overthrew Kadesh. Then followed Rameses II, the Pharaoh of the oppression of Israel. He met the Hittite army at Kadesh once more, strongly enforced by neighboring allies. A great battle was fought, and the proceedings are recorded in detail in writing, pictures and a poem, written 3,200 years ago — the oldest heroic poem in the world. The Hittite king made his power felt, and another mutual treaty of peace followed. That treaty has been preserved, and shows that the Hittites lost 2,500 war-chariots and horses. The Hittite kings were the rivals of Egypt, in peace and in war. From the 12th to the 20th dynasty, the Egyptians exhausted their power in resisting this one foe, and the mighty empire of the Hittites was constantly replenished from Asia Minor on the west and Mesopotamia on the east.

In the British Museum are a number of clay-inscribed tablets, which have been translated by Professor Sayce, which reveal to us the existence of the Hittite power at an extremely remote period. Here are two translations: "The king of the Hittites lives and on the throne seizes." Again: "The foreign king of the Hittites plunders, and on the throne seizes." A tablet of Sargon of Agade, B. C. 3500, says: "The Hittites are regarded as a formidable people." They extended their empire to the borders of Greece, to the borders of Egypt, and they ruled over Mesopotamia; and they held their supremacy for ages. In the reign of Tiglath-Pileser I, B. C. 1130, the Hittites were paramount from the Euphrates to Lebanon. In one of the oldest Chaldean inscriptions known, trilingual, and on the throne seizes." A tablet of Sargon of Agade, B. C. 3500, says: "The Hittites are regarded as a formidable people." 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## The Family.

## SPEAKING TO THE HEART.

[EDITORIAL.]

We talk a great deal, and oftentimes very confusedly, about faith in God; but faith in God means the doing of just what God enjoins upon us.

Hope for nothing from prayers that do not correspond with the teachings of Christ, and that are not attended with a life that is consistent with the prayers.

That gnawing anxiety which results from constant brooding over the possible approach of overwhelming troubles, has been forcibly described as

"The broad consumptive plague, Which breathes from the city to the heart but."

The Christian has a sure prophylactic against this wide-spread plague in his Lord's assurance that his Heavenly Father knoweth all his needs, and has pledged Himself to add all necessary earthly things to him who seeks first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. His faith in this promise is proof against the poison of anxiety.

A glance from the pitiful eye of Jesus transformed the cowardly, profane, false Peter into a weeping, remorseful penitent. In like manner a gentle word, a look from a loving eye, or a sudden thought of some half-forgotten obligation, often arrests the tumult of irritated passion in the breast of an angry man. Blessed, therefore, is he who, instead of being provoked by the stings of his friend's excited temper, speaks the kind word, gives the affectionate look, or suggests the restraining thought. Still more blessed, however, is he in whose heart love reigns with such supremacy that his serenity is never disturbed and his temper never provoked.

Men whose speculations are but applications of the gambler's methods to commercial transactions, monopolists whose combinations crush less wealthy competitors beneath their iron-shod feet, and corporate bodies who treat human beings as parts of the machinery by which they heap up riches, would most likely shrink from replying to the novelist who censures their ways,

"Wealth, my dear fellow, is the wise man's god."

All other things are a pretense and boast." But though these lines of the poet contain too barefaced a creed to be openly confessed, it is nevertheless a fair interpretation of the principles on which their deeds are grounded. Wealth is their god. Honor, truth, justice, brotherly obligations to their fellow-men, they practically repudiate as "pretenses and boast." Selfism is their law. When they see other men wrecked by their operations, they laugh at their ruined victims, saying with Cain, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Alas! for such morally degraded men. Having adopted the selfism of Cain, what can they reasonably expect when the day of retribution comes, but to sink with Cain beneath a punishment too great to be borne except by beings who must suffer it because they cannot die?

THE SECRET OF THE TREES.

Old trees, you are nearly as brown and bare  
As you were in the wintry days;  
Your arms are uncovered, your heads are bald,  
And who is to sing your praise?

But you have a secret that I can guess;  
There is vigor and life, and strength  
In the twigs and branches that look so dead,  
And they all tell us so at least.

How weak is the life at your innocent hearts,  
How strong is the boughs and the swell  
Of your joy at the dawn of the summer-time,  
You know, though you do not tell.

But when I have felt the soft south wind  
And the kiss of the loving sun,  
To the eyes that love shall be revealed  
All the patient work you have done.

For after the waiting shall be the joy,  
And after the dearth the wealth,  
And that which is barren grows beautiful  
In the rush and the glow of health.

So, although you are looking both brown and bare,  
And are keeping your secret well,  
The hope, and the life, and the loveliness  
Will themselves tell story tell.

You are like the people who look at you!  
There is little in them to show  
How brightly some day around their heads  
The glory of God will glow.

But after the winter of time is past,  
There shall a summer be,  
A summer of beauty and light and song—  
And oh, may it come to me!

—MARIANNE FARNHAM, in *Christian World*.

## A MOST IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

BY REV. CHAS. W. CUSHING, D. D.

The recent appalling accidents caused by the giving way of railway bridges, suggests the question so often heard, whether it is not possible to construct these bridges of some material which will resist the action of the elements, and thus prevent such peril and destruction of life. It is well known that iron will grow brittle through crystallization, as the result of the motion produced by the trains passing over the bridges. And yet this is the only material of which it has been thought wise to construct them.

Recently a comparatively new metal has been brought into notice, but of which, for good reason, the mass of people as yet know nothing. The existence of this metal has been known to scientists for nearly a century, but not even a single pound of it had been produced from its ores, until the year 1854. And even then its production was so difficult, and the process of reducing it from its ores or oxides was so expensive, that it has never come into use. It has been known that it was not only of great value, but that it

exists in great quantities in every part of the earth. This important metal is known as aluminum, or aluminum—the latter preferred. It is more abundant than iron, and with the exception of silicon and lime, is the most abundant constituent of the earth. It constitutes the metallic base of some of the rarest gems, such as the ruby, turquoise, lapis lazuli, topaz and sapphire. Aluminum is a white metal with a beautiful lustre, and is the lightest of all metals except magnesium, being only about one-third as heavy as iron, and consequently lighter than many kinds of wood. And yet it is stronger than iron or steel, its tensile strength being three tons to the square inch—greater than that of the best Bessemer steel. It has neither taste nor odor, is not tarnished by exposure to air or moisture, and is not affected by any of the acids except hydrochloric. It is the best conductor of electricity and heat that has ever been known. With such properties as these, it is apparent that if it could only be produced at a low price, it would work a thorough revolution in the use of metals in a pocket.

F. S. HUNTINGTON.  
Worthington, Mass.

## IN MEMORIAM—MRS. N. FELLOWS.

BY MISS S. CHASE.

Rest, happy spirit, rest!  
Thy troubled life is o'er,  
Thy heavenly life begun  
Upon the peaceful shore.

Thy voice is now attuned  
To harmony sublime,  
Thy features brightly beam  
With radiance divine.

No more do loved ones watch  
For reason's dawning ray;  
The long dark night is changed  
To one eternal day.

Thou bidst at the mourning heart  
Rejoice that thou art free,  
Free as the seraph's wing  
Above the crystal sea.

Free to enjoy the love  
Bestowed on thee so long,  
And praise thy God above,  
Amid the angel throng.

And when the Father calls  
For loving friends to come,  
What rapture then to meet  
And bid them welcome home!

## ON TO CAIRO.

BY REV. JOHN D. KNOX.

The trip from Alexandria to Cairo, a distance of 131 miles by rail, was made in about six hours. This was the first road made in the East, and was constructed in 1855. The gardens first attract our attention. On the left is to be seen, in wonderful contrast to the mud sunburnt brick hovels of the poor, the splendid palace of the Viceroy at Ramleh. On our right the road skirts the Lake Mareot, stretching far out of sight. Various kinds of birds give interest to the ride. Much of the way a canal is on the left, and the east bank is used as a road on which men, women and children, donkeys, mules, horses, oxen and camels are passing each way, many of them heavily laden. No wheeled vehicles are to be seen. All kinds of burdens are piled or tied to the sides of the camel. Many of these animals paid no attention to the passing train, while others created a laughable scene. Children having charge of a flock of sheep or goats, in order to keep them in their flight from running into a wheat field or bean patch (for there are no fences in Egypt), would lovingly put their arms around the neck of a sheep or goat, and in quieting one would restrain all the rest. Here I saw a man plowing with a heifer and a camel—"unequally yoked." The Egyptian buffalo are very numerous, and many were seen in use in lifting water to irrigate the land. With a beam, as in an old-fashioned threshing machine, the ox goes round and round, and turns a large wheel over which is a rope or strap reaching down into a large well, and to this strap or rope are fastened earthen vessels, which, passing through to the water, are filled, and as they descend, empty the water in such a way that it runs off in quite a stream so as to gladden the desert and make it yield an abundance.

Christine, spoke a familiar voice, and there was Tom Wayland. The instant she heard him, and met his merry glance, she remembered her resolution to tell "the first friend she met."

"But I didn't know it would be Tom. If only it was Ella Bailey, or any of all persons?"

Then just there, a bit of Spencer flashed through her mind—

"It changed eternal God that chance did guide."

Christine involuntarily shivered. What if it were of God's special ordaining that she had told Tom? And after all, why could she not tell him as well as any one? questioned conscience. Had she not known him from her childhood up? They had studied the same books, played the same games; why should she hesitate to speak of this one thing to him?

"Why, because no one thinks of speaking seriously to Tom," she pleaded; "and he was never known to speak seriously himself."

Christine knew full well how mercifully this selfsame Tom could ridicule her if she told him.

"I cannot," she said decidedly to herself. "And, besides, the street is no place to speak of such things."

"But you presented your friend, Miss Denham, to him on the street only yesterday, and why not present Jesus to-day?" urged conscience, to which reasoning Christine had no answer.

They had been walking along together, chattering of this and that all the while that Christine had been parleying with her conscience.

"They had come now to the corner, Tom was going one way, Christine the other."

He lifted his hat gracefully, and waited for her to pass, but Christine suddenly came to a standstill.

"Tom," she said, hurriedly, "it occurred to me this morning, and I am so sorry and ashamed about it, that I never said one word to you about my best friend. O Tom, you've no idea what a friend He is, nor how He helps and comforts me. I cannot tell you how much happier I am since I found my Saviour. Won't you let Him be your Friend?"

Then she waited almost breathlessly. Would he turn it off with a laugh, as she had so often heard him? She looked up, and found, instead of a laugh, an entirely new expression for Tom Wayland's face to wear; and something very like a tear glistening in his merry brown eye.

"Thank you, Christine," he said gravely; "I have no one to speak to but you of these things at home, and by the utter silence of my friends who profess to know about them, I had begun to

two put together; at 2 o'clock, a teaching service to teach the Word; and in the evening a *reaping* service of prayer, praise and work, when we would gather up the results of the day's work. I believe this will be the method of the future."

This is from a personal letter of a layman, an eminent lawyer, a thousand miles west of Boston. The sentiment seems worthy of *heralding*. We are missing results from our preaching and teaching. There is too much of a pause after benedictions; too many benedictions, perhaps. This monotony is broken occasionally with the brown, mouldy villages, sometimes relieved by the graceful outlines of a few minarets and cupolas of a Mussulman cemetery, but only really picturesque when nestled in a grove of stately palms. Here is Tantah, where fairs are held in January, April and August, each lasting eight days; and sometimes as many as 200,000 people are collected together for religion and business, and in former times a brisk trade in slaves was carried on.

Further on we cross the Damietta branch of the Nile on a splendid bridge, and pass palace and ruins. In three and a half hours from Alexandria we reach Benha Junction, where orange groves abound, and large supplies are sent from this region to Cairo market. Now a ruined town, Athribis by name, appears, as mournful looking as an old brick-yard, a mile in length; but we go, for this is an express train, and the "country becomes much more wooded, and villas with pretty gardens and well-grown plantations offer a pleasant relief to the eye after the unbroken monotony of the country hitherto traversed. On the east may be seen in the distance the mounds of Heliopolis, the gardens of Matarreyeh, the plantations of Kooba, the vast buildings of the Abbasseyyeh, and the race course. On the west is the palace of Shooba, and the magnificent avenue leading from it to Cairo." Now all is excitement and bustle, and in a few minutes more it is much increased by the train entering the station in Cairo, the capital of Egypt.

—The *Watchman*.

think there was nothing in it. I am very glad to find there is."

Then he was gone, and Christine hardly knew whether she felt most ashamed or to think that she had spoken, or ashamed that she had been so long silent.

"Christine," said her brother, coming into the sitting-room, where she was at work, a few days after, "there has been a dreadful accident. The Western express was run into by a freight, and they say Tom Wayland was on board."

Yes, Christine remembered he had told her he should probably go away on the train on business; he had spoken of it because it would oblige him to be absent from their church meeting.

The report proved only too true; but he was not only on the train, but was fatally injured. But there had been a few moments of consciousness after the accident, and tearing a leaf from his note-book, Tom had painfully written a few lines, which he sent to Christine by one of the passengers who had escaped unhurt.

"Dear Christine," it read, "I cannot tell you how I thank you for those words of yours. I think I found Him yesterday, and He has done great things for me in this dreadful time—Tome."

"And to think," said Christine to herself, with a smile, "how much I can not speak of it. How strange I should read just that verse that morning, and meet Tom! I suppose God knew all," and again that little fragment came into her mind,

"It changed eternal God that chance did

it."

—The *Watchman*.

## THE FLOWER IN THE STONE WALL.

BY ALICE M. DUGGLAS.

O lonely flower, why here unfold  
Your beauty in this wall so old,  
With scarcely soil enough to feed  
The lowest plant, the meanest weed?  
Yet thrify and as well you grow  
As better-cared-for plants. Why so?  
The wind might blow you from this place,  
The sun scorch you unsheltered face,  
The clumsy stones of this rude wall  
Might slip and crush you in their fall,  
The rain might wash the soil away  
That forms your sustenance each day.

And it is even in my power  
To end your life, poor, helpless flower!  
Then very strange it is, that you  
Never looked about you, ere you grew  
Where flower has never bloomed before,  
Nor will ever venture more.

Then seemed the little flower to say:  
"Here was I blown one bright spring day,  
A tiny seed, and here I cling  
And into being soon I spring;  
My leaves and buds came one by one, I  
heard my Maker's voice, 'Well done!'

What cared I how the cold wind blew?  
My God said, 'Grow,' and so I grew.  
What cared I for the sun's bright ray?  
Sheltered by crevices rocks I lay.  
What cared I if the rain did fall?  
I clung still closer to the wall."

And such, I thought, should be man's life;  
O'ercoming sorrow, pain and strife,  
A passive creature in God's hand  
Should he obey each slight command,  
And ready be, that peace to fill  
Where he may best work out God's will.

—The *Watchman*.

## Our Girls.

## CHRISTINE'S WORD.

"Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee."

Christine Wilson stopped at that verse in her morning's reading, closed the Bible, and sat for a long time looking thoughtfully out of the window.

"I wonder," she said, at last, slowly to herself, "I wonder if ever I have told any friend of mine what great things Christ has done for me. I don't believe I have. I do not remember doing it, and yet why ought not I to, as well as all the demás of old? But when shall I tell? I know; I will speak to the first friend I meet."

The cloud lifted from her face, and with light heart she went out into the bright spring sunshine. The verse and the impression it had made upon her had almost slipped her mind when there came a quick step just behind her.

"Christine," spoke a familiar voice, and there was Tom Wayland. The instant she heard him, and met his merry glance, she remembered her resolution to tell "the first friend she met."

"But I didn't know it would be Tom. If only it was Ella Bailey, or any of all persons?"

Then just there, a bit of Spencer flashed through her mind—

"It changed eternal God that chance did

guide."

Christine involuntarily shivered. What if it were of God's special ordaining that she had told Tom?

"Yet, dear, and in the Old Testament," replied Mrs. Eaden. "But all there is about her is told in two or three verses, and we have to imagine, or rather to infer, everything else."

"How do you infer, mamma?"

"I'll try to explain. You told me this morning of the cat that came into the yard, and said that she had a ribbon tied around her neck. I infer from this ornament that pussy is the pet of some little girl who is fond of her. Will that do?"

"Yes, mamma."

"Now Fan is satisfied," said Master Frank, "perhaps mother can tell her story."

Nobody knew that Frank cared particularly for the story, but he generally had an ear open to what was going on, even when he seemed to be engaged with a book.

"I have looked for that other girl," said Emma, "but I cannot find her."

"Yet you remember that a man named Naaman was cured of leprosy by doing as he was told by the prophet Elisha?"

"Yes, indeed," said both Kate and Emma.

"And do you remember what made Naaman go to the prophet?"

"I had forgotten all about it, but I think it says that a little maid told Naaman's wife that a prophet in Israel would cure her husband's leprosy."

"Yes, and the little maid was a captive."

"I don't know what a captive is," said poor little Fanny.

"A captive, dear, is one who has been taken from home, or

the worthless drunk  
years the water  
\$100,000.

ce meeting in Blen-  
all, the speakers  
who were unanimous  
they could perform  
without strength  
that there are now  
100,000 total abstainers

sts in Philadelphia  
more than one-half,  
alone, and a large  
remainder were for  
able to the use of

onists have gained  
ies in Mississippi,  
the entire State are

te on a prohibition  
first Thursday of

and Wales have  
ed by the closing of  
Sunday. In the  
Wales, there was  
for drunkenness last

eight years 61,259  
and barmen, be-  
their families have  
total absolution as  
Mission to Seamen  
of England.

Advocate says of the  
ion: "The Method-  
ichigan comes  
with honor. Every  
was an enthusiastic  
and with very  
ed our membership  
their adoption. As a  
shamed of our rec-

aver, of Pennsyl-  
the commendable  
or Lounsbury, of  
ridding the mem-  
induce in intox-  
cial dinners.

## R AND SUNSHINE.

that came  
ay, from childish eyes,  
from play,  
a from, a blow!  
apart,  
sore heart.  
sore heart.  
the sunbeams glad  
ove,  
low dark it grew !  
of love;  
the rain fell fast,  
er you know,  
ught he "didn't care"  
ebo so.

has little stone  
cept weighting,  
el as all fun  
on his playing.  
"Sunshine," and  
and eyes  
it plays  
in the skies.

the comforter,  
can it, Rob,  
him, dear,  
, and perhaps  
y, too,  
will cure your hand;  
your hand.

the good advice  
gave ?  
in his heart,  
to save ?  
presently  
passed away,  
the sunshine came  
dry day.

SHINE, in Churchman.

national.

ller, of Leipsic Uni-  
two titles and honor-  
name.

ck has donated 100-  
corporation of Osa-  
tion of a museum.

re are more colleges  
of Europe, and one  
has more students  
ate of Illinois.

is often asked, in re-  
lation of Latin, how  
American colleges  
to the most relia-

the entire number,

the Roman method,

method, and 34 by

school of Languages

is to open on the

It meets with grow-  
attended from all

and the students

ve colleges in Penn-

mit both sexes into

proposes to found  
ol in San Francisco,  
to any boy or girl in  
endow it with prop-  
erty.

Everett Hale's est-  
reat novels: "Robin-  
uch Tom's Cabin,"  
"Two of Two Cities,"  
ights," "The New-  
"Romola," "Dumas'  
and Prejudice," "Dumas'  
"An Islander," etc. Charles  
writer's Son, New York.

and reading room

to be free for women

by men. This was

the founder of the

S. B. Chittenden, of

tratory, to be erected

one of the finest and

the country. It will

ion has made great  
breeze during recent

for girls has a staff

ers and 1,500 pupi-

lions are rare, even

ay hill countries.

for April gives a

of graduates of the

and Scientific Cir-

886. This is the fifth

graduated from

the and the largest. The

is very large, in-

ates and Territories,

australian Islands.

the Magazine of American History for

has a charming engraved portrait of

Gov. Cleveland—a lovely face—with

the "Comrades" as a

head. It has its usual full chapters of

and "Studio and Gallery," amply

filled, with rich, fresh contributions to

the department. Montague Marks, 23

South Square, New York.

The Art Amateur for May has a striking

plate by Parker— "A Norman Peas-

in" its extra supplement it has a deci-

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## The Week.

## At Home.

Two thousand women and girls locked out in the shoe factories of Cincinnati.

Hon. and Mrs. Jacob Estey of Brattleboro, Vt., observe their fiftieth wedding anniversary, receiving 2,000 persons at their home.

Capt. Isaac H. Houghton of Newton said to be an embezzler to the extent of about \$12,000 from Scull & Bradley, insurance agents.

Judge Hilton presents Melleson's "Friedland," the most valuable painting in America, to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The public debt statement shows the reduction of the public debt during the month of April to be \$13,053,098.77; total cash in the Treasury, \$460,105,386.41.

The Logan fund, which aimed at \$100,000, closed at \$67,000.

The American Bridge Works in Chicago burned; the loss put at \$400,000.

Rev. Charles Ward, the Englewood rector, found dead from an overdose of chloral.

Queen Kapilani received and entertained at the White House by the President and the First Lady.

The strike in the Pennsylvania coke region inaugurated; 13,000 men idle.

The bequests left Philadelphia by Stephen Girard now estimated to represent a money value of over ten millions of dollars.

The largest gas well in the world discovered at Fairmount, Ind. The test of Prof. Orton, state geologist of Ohio, shows that it is flowing nearly 12,000,000 feet per day.

President Cleveland issues an order restricting the importation of breach-loading rifles and intoxicating liquors into Alaska.

The New York Assembly passes the bill providing that ten hours shall constitute a day's work for all streetcar employees in cities of over 100,000 inhabitants in that State.

The Incorporators of the Clark University at Worcester organize. A letter from Jonas G. Clark, the founder of the institution, offers to the university another million of dollars conditionally.

Mr. George Cabot Ward, a native of Boston and ex-president of the Union League Club of New York city, dies in his 63d year.

The Connecticut House of Representatives passes bills for the incarceration of incorrigibles. The Senate passes a bill refunding the outstanding \$1,030,000 of five per cent. bonds.

The 55th annual convention of Alpha Delta Phi held at Tremont Temple in this city.

A new high license bill passed by the Massachusetts House. The Senate engrosses the bill making labor day a legal holiday.

Charles James Fanckner elected United States Senator by the West Virginia Legislature.

The Connecticut House passes a bill making women eligible to election district school boards.

Prince Frederick Leopold, grandson of Emperor William, entertained at Chicago.

Anti-coercion meeting at Burlington, Vt. Principal speeches by Gov. Ormsbee and Hon. John E. Fitzgerald.

R. D. Gambrell, an editor, shot and killed in Jackson, Miss., by Col. J. S. Hamilton, who was mortally wounded.

Great damage in Michigan and Pennsylvania by wind and hail storms.

The Chinese portion of San Jose, Cal., destroyed by fire on Wednesday; loss \$75,000.

Sale of prison-made goods prohibited in New York State unless marked "convict made," with name of prison and date of manufacture.

Death of Hon. Oliver Hoyt, of Stamford, Conn., from injuries caused by being thrown from his carriage; and of Hon. W. C. De Panay, of Indiana, of apoplexy.

Lightning kills several people in southern New York and northern Pennsylvania, and destroys much property.

Queen Kapilani and her suite dined by President Cleveland; the White House brilliantly decorated.

Hours of work at E. W. Chapin's woolen mill at Worcester reduced to 60 hours per week.

Commodore Seward trying to surpass the English in building the \$100,000 torpedo boat authorized by Congress.

Daniel C. Birdsall, editor and proprietor of the Hartford *Telegram*, arrested on a charge of embezzlement.

The Jersey Central railroad passes into the hands of the Corbin party; new board of directors elected.

An oil well near Lima, O., flowing at the rate of 3,000 barrels per day, and a natural gas well of 5,000,000 cubic feet.

By the breaking of a wharf rail in New Orleans many persons drowned at a baptismal party.

Queen Kapilani arrives in Boston, and attends Trinity Church.

Attempt to murder J. B. Slaughter, a wealthy stockraiser in New Mexico.

## ABROAD.

Prince Jerome Bonaparte prostrated by apoplexy.

Heavy damage along the St. John River caused by freshets; Fredericton party inundated.

Large armaments being pushed forward in Russia, and orders for concentration on the frontiers.

Debate in the House of Commons regarding the alleged breach of privilege committed by the London *Times* in charging Mr. Dillon with falsehood.

James Gordon Bennett's yacht "Nanouma" arrives at Suez.

Reports of serious fighting in Afghanistan; capture of Khetal-i-Ghilzar; killing of Sekander Khan and 400 men on each side; Russian advance and removal of boundary pillars.

Mr. Parnell nominates Mr. William O'Brien to succeed Mr. E. Leamy as Home Ruler in Parliament for the northeastern division of Cork.

The Czar arranging to witness the Don Cossack military manœuvres.

Fires set by Nihilists in St. Petersburg cause loss of life and injury to many persons.

An explosion of fire-damp occurs in a coal mine on Vancouver's Island, and 150 miners entombed.

The Chinese Government orders that every foreign missionary in China must hold a passport from his own government in order that his nationality may be shown.

Steamer "Asia" from Barcelona for Marseilles, sunk in a collision, and several passengers drowned.

The cardinals summoned by the Pope to confer upon the question of reconciliation with the Italian government.

A bill similar to the interstate commerce act introduced in the Canadian Parliament.

One hundred houses destroyed by fire at Eperies, Hungary.

In the House of Commons Mr. Gladstone's amendment for a committee of inquiry in the *Times*-Dillon matter rejected by a vote of 317 to 233, and the motion declining to treat the *Times* publication as a breach of privilege, agreed to.

Terrible fires in Hungary, causing great destruction of property and loss of life.

Opening of the American exhibition at London.

Several towns in Mexico nearly destroyed by earthquake shocks, and over 150 lives lost.

German war authorities discover that melinite is useless for war purposes because it decomposes when long kept.

A union of the Greek and Latin Churches aimed at Pope Leo.

By a collision of steamships in the English Channel a number of Italian emigrants lose their lives.

(Continued from page 5.)

who would not become members of Conference, to "supply" so important a place as the capital of the State and the seat of our Seminary. The result was, that Bro. J. O. Sherburn was taken from the district at the end of one year's successful service and stationed at Montpelier, while Bro. A. B. Truax was put on the district. Both will do good service. The latter was, probably, never more surprised than when "read off" for the district.

Bro. L. L. Beeman, who for a time cherished the thought of other alliances, returned to his "first love," and is stationed at Barre, where is a splendid opening for a good work, which he will not fail to improve.

Bro. J. D. Beeman was again elected president of our Seminary. His family have been out of health most of the winter, but are now convalescent.

ST. ALBANS DISTRICT.

The *Conference Reporter*, published by Bro. W. J. Johnson, was the most successful daily we have yet had, in some respects. It gave altogether the fullest report of the doings of Conference. It gave all the details of business with the fullness of a journal; and then gave full outlines of the addresses before Conference and at the anniversaries, and of the sermons preached, as well as a full account of the Sunday services in our own and the other churches. The list of subscriptions amounted to something over 1,500, and Bro. Johnson paid \$25 into the fund for Conference claimants, according to his pledge to do so if the list should reach these figures.

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT.

On returning from Conference, Bro. A. J. Hough and wife found the parsonage at Bradford had been re-shingled and re-painted. It seemed almost going to a new appointment, except the old friends remained. The year opens auspiciously at Bradford.

H. A. S.

IS IT TRUE? AND IF SO, SHOULD IT BE?

BY REV. H. W. CONANT.

THE SEASON.

The blasts of another severe winter have died away, and the spring is here. Spring is the best-seasoned of all, for it not only causes flowers to spring up in the footfalls of winter, but hope and joy in the paths of rich and poor—especially the poor. And it looks as if all the heavy-laden masses of earth, when they sing, and believe as they sing, that there is a land "where everlasting spring abides," would spring at the offer of Him who alone can give them a "title clear" to an inheritance there. But the multitudes prefer to go with them that do evil. When will all this be reversed?

RELIGIOUS PROGRESS.

The past winter has been a marked campaign, not only in Iowa, but in all Western Methodism. Scarcely a single charge but has had more or less of a revival, many of them resulting in hundreds of accessions to local churches. One revival within the Iowa Conference is unique. It began last August, when the dog-star was raging, in the midst of harvest. It kept the pastor from attending the session of the Annual Conference in September. I moved from point to point on the circuit, and at last accounts was still going on. Between four and five hundred have professed conversion; old societies were revived and strengthened, and new societies started as the result of over four hundred accessions in those rural districts. Surely it will not be hard to reach the "million line from collections only" on that circuit for years to come. If the Lord baptizes the pocket-books of the new converts this year, they alone will make up last year's deficiency. Heaven send the baptism!

A politician may safely snub the church, but he grovels in the dust before the wielder of the beer-mallet." Such is the language of Petroleum V. Nasby, in one of the most scathing denunciations of lager-beer and of its power in politics that can be found in type. After showing the best profits made possible in its sale, he proceeds to a description of the aggressive methods of the brewers to dispose of the products of their mammoth breweries. They established "beer-saloons" everywhere possible. As he has a patent of his own describing it, we quote his words:

"They found for them conscienceless creatures, with neither morals nor decency, who never had money enough to pay for a meal of victuals, hand-dog fellows with long mustaches, and trouser sleeves chewed off at the heels, with dirty neckties to hide still more dirty shirts, paper-collar twice-turned abominations, who would be thieves but for the lack of courage, the fellows who crawl between heaven and earth, living, the good Lord permits them only to live now." This class of men are a place "with a counter, round pine table, cheap and cheap chairs, cheap pool-table, a few packs of cards, kegs of beer and a few glasses, are set to work, perfectly equipped devil's missionaries."

The property is owned by the brewer, and in order to keep his place, the trade must be pushed by the saloon-keeper. He has now become an aggressive "missionary for the diffusion of alcohol." By numerous and varied attractions he draws in the workingman, and makes him a slave to the appetite for beer.

THE HYMNAL.

Second Dr. Goodwin's motion to revise the Hymnal. That it is not full of classic music and poetry, I will not deny. But if I am any judge, and experience has taught me anything in that line, the last committee on revision overshot the average congregation. If all were trained singers, it would doubtless be popular, and long continue in general use; but as it is, many other books are taking the place, and will more and more, of the Hymnal, in our church services. Among the substitutes are Gospel Hymns and the Epworth, but the latter is open to much the same criticism as the Hymnal. Give us a smaller book with more simple songs and choruses! When a revival is on, the heart naturally breaks out in choruses, and choruses will help on the revival. Stately hymns will not.

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IMPROVEMENTS.

Several important improvements are projected for the coming spring and summer. Fort Madison, Burlington, First Church, and Marengo will each build new and more attractive houses of worship. May the glory of the latter house exceed the former! Marengo, without a parsonage all its ecclesiastical life, will provide its pastor—Rev. W. G. Wilson—with a home. Several new churches have been built and dedicated, and others will be before Conference.

This, he says, is a cause for the demand for prohibition. After making a personal tour in Maine to determine for himself whether prohibition prohibits, he affirms that it does. The few places where liquor is sold are uninverting and unattractive, and "nobody ever penetrates these horrible places except the confirmed drinkers." The boys in the country towns in Maine, he avers, are "saved from the infidelity of drink." And he states that in Kansas and Iowa, by the absence of the gaudy saloon, "the boys are saved. The hunt for boys is at an end."

After citing the fact that energetic agents of the brewers secure place for a saloon when a new building plan is laid out, or ground is broken for a factory, he says: "The business is, in and of itself, an organized hunt after weak men and children."

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He then proceeds to show the power of the brewer in politics. He owns saloons; controls the votes of the saloon-keepers; they control the votes of at least four customers each; and the collateral branches of trade, tobacco-  
ists, coopers, bottlers and different

kinds of people who supply the saloon trade, wielded by a master hand, give the control of the cities of the country to the "saloon power."

It is in this connection that Nasby pens the lines at the head of this article. It is an awful arraignment of the church of Jesus Christ! Is it true? If so, what answer can be made to the arraignment?

It may be justly said that His church is not a political organization. But ought it to be said that its power is not heralded against an evil that presents the greatest obstacle to the accomplishment of its mission on earth—hurled with a concentration of purpose and effort that will "destroy this work of the devil?"

That such a statement should be openly made, is alarming; but that it should go unchallenged, is indicative of a condition of things in the political life of to-day that gravely questions the character of the church and its relation to the consecration and perpetuity of free institutions. Where is the hope of our country if it be not in its intelligent and emancipated Christian conscience? Shall the man who "wields the beer-mallet" usurp the place of power in American politics? Shall the ignorance of danger from the presence of this foreign foe, or indifference to the issues involved, or the pressure of business interests, or the multitude of accessions, divert its attention from the awful responsibility thrown upon it, in the providence of God, to outlaw, and then annihilate, the saloon power?

The love of Christ should constrain the Christian church to cast this devil out of society and of the State and National Prohibition before the year of our Lord 1900. It will do it if it improves its opportunity.

HAWKEYETEMS.

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